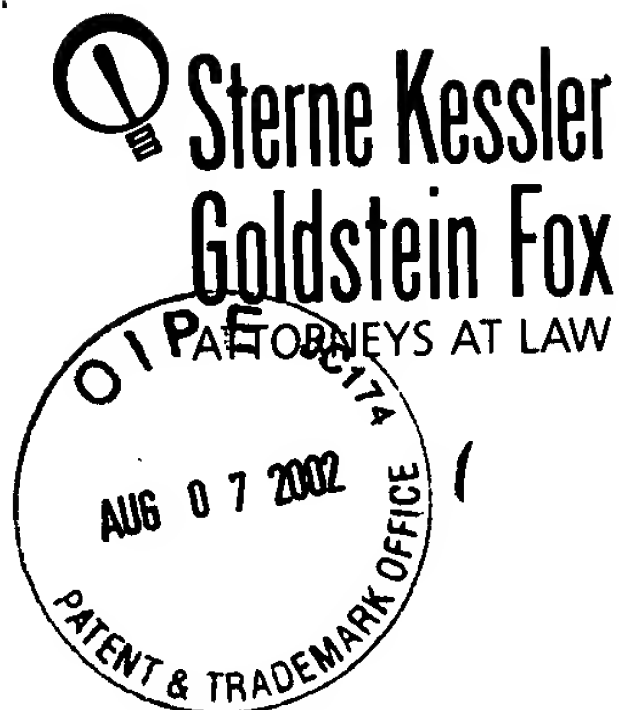


1637



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August 7, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AUG 09 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/845,157; Filed: May 1, 2001
For: **Thermostable Reverse Transcriptase and Uses Thereof**
Inventors: Smith, *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.5040001/RWE/B-C

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

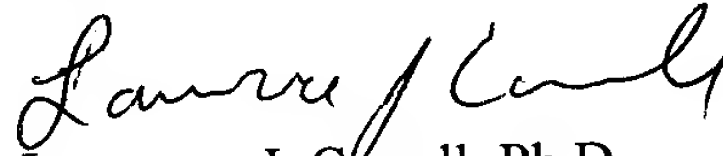
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
August 7, 2002
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency,
or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Lawrence J. Carroll, Ph.D.

Agent for Applicants

Registration No. 40,940

RWE/B-C:law

Enclosures

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AUG 09 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

In re application of:

Smith, *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/845,157

Filed: May 1, 2001

For: **Thermostable Reverse
Transcriptase and Uses Thereof**

Confirmation No. 2674

Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Fredman, Jeffrey N.

Atty. Docket: 0942.5040001/RWE/B-C

[Handwritten signature]
8/14/02

Reply To Restriction Requirement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:


In reply to the Office Action dated July 12, 2002, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 1-29, and 44-48 and Species IV Histidine 204 of M-MLV reverse transcriptase. This election is made without traverse and without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time

are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby
authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


Lawrence J. Carroll, Ph.D.
Agent for Applicants
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Date: August 7, 2002

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